

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
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R 051231Z JAN 78  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6255  
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AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 0206

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP, IR  
SUBJ: PRESIDENT CARTER VISIT TO IRAN DEC 31 TO JAN. 1:  
ROUND-UP AND ATMOSPHERICS

1. CARTER VISIT TO IRAN, COMING AS IT DID SO SHORTLY AFTER  
SHAH'S LONGER STATE VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN NOVEMBER, HAD A  
VERY PERSONAL QUALITY ABOUT IT. SHAH AND SHAHBANOU MET THE  
PRESIDENT AND HIS PARTY AT THE AIRPORT, SAW THEM OFF THE NEXT  
DAY, AND GENERALLY SPENT A GREAT DEAL OF TIME IN THE COMPANY  
OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARTER.

2. TALKS BETWEEN THE SHAH AND PRESIDENT AT SAADABAD PALACE, WHERE  
CARTERS WERE STAYING, EARLY EVENING DEC.31 WERE FOLLOWED BY  
A STATE DINNER WHICH INCLUDED PRIME MINISTER AND OTHER  
TOP GOI OFFICIALS.  
GOODWILL GENERATED BY EXCHANGES OF REMARKS BOTH AT  
AIRPORT AND AT DINNER TRANSLATED ITSELF INTO CONSIDERABLE  
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GAIETY AS THE NEW YEAR APPROACHED AND DINNER WAS FOLLOWED BY  
DANCING.

3. KING HUSSEIN, WHO WAS ENTERTAINED AT SEPARATE DINNER  
BY GOI, JOINED THE PRESIDENT AND THE SHAH AFTER DINNER,  
AND IT WAS WELL AFTER MIDNIGHT BEFORE THE AFFAIR BROKE  
UP. HUSSEIN'S MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT TOOK PLACE THE

NEXT MORNING JUST PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENT'S DEPARTURE.

4. SECURITY WAS EXTREMELY TIGHT THROUGHOUT THE VISIT, AND THERE WERE NO MAJOR DEMONSTRATIONS OR INCIDENTS BEYOND THOSE SMALL ONES REPORTED IN TEHRAN 00054. THIS PRACTICALLY ELIMINATED THE ELEMENT OF CROWD PARTICIPATION. THE MAIN CROWD SCENE OCCURRED WHEN SEVERAL THOUSAND PICKED SPECTATORS GATHERED AROUND THE SHAHYAD MONUMENT CIRCLE TO WAVE FLAGS AND CHEER THE MOTORCADE'S PROGRESS, BUT EVEN THERE CROWDS WERE KEPT AT SIDEWALK EDGE FROM THE PASSING MOTORCADE.

5. GROUP OF ABOUT 300 AMERICAN RESIDENTS IN TEHRAN BRAVED THE EARLY NEW YEAR'S MORNING CHILL TO APPEAR AT MEHRABAD AIRPORT AND GREET THE PRESIDENT BEFORE HE DEPARTED. THEY RECEIVED AN UNEXPECTED DIVIDEND WHEN THE SHAH AND EMPRESS WENT SLOWLY PAST THEM SHAKING HANDS WITH PRACTICALLY EVERYONE ON THEIR WAY OUT OF THE AIRPORT AFTER DEPARTURE OF THE CARTER PARTY. CURIOUSLY, THIS PUT THE SHAH IN THE POSITION OF HAVING PRESSED ABOUT AS MUCH AMERICAN FLESH DURING THE VISIT AS THE PRESIDENT DID.

6. PRESS REPORTS WERE FULSOME AND POSITIVE. THEY GENERALLY HEADLINED THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE FOR FUTURE SALES OF AMERICAN NUCLEAR REACTORS IN IRAN. BY THE TIME THE PARTY WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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LEAVING, THE AURA OF SUCCESS AND GOOD WILL HAD PERMEATED EVEN THE SECURITY PEOPLE WHO WERE NOTABLY MORE SMILING AND ACCOMMODATING WITH AMERICANS AND OTHERS AT THE AIRPORT THAN THEY HAD BEEN FOR THE ARRIVAL.  
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